

WATER ON WILD
IN HONGKONG
AND SOUTH CHINA.
By the Sun. G. A.
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HONGKONG, FRIDAY, APRIL 2, 1915.

卯乙亥歲年四國民華中

BY TELEGRAPH.

THE PROGRESS OF THE WAR.

ANOTHER BRITISH AIR RAID ON GERMAN SUBMARINES.

BRITISH AND FRENCH STEAMERS TORPEDOED WITHOUT WARNING.

INTERESTING ACCOUNT OF THE FRENCH FRONT.

(Reuter's Service to the China Mail.)

GERMAN SUBMARINES ATTACKED.

BOMBS DROPPED SUCCESSFULLY.

London, April 1, 8 p.m.

The Press Bureau announces that Flight-Sub-Lieut. Andrews successfully attacked German submarines, under construction at Hoboken, dropping four bombs.

Flight-Lieut. J. P. Wilson, while reconnoitering at Zeebrugge, observed two submarines alongside the mole. He attacked them, dropping four bombs, which are believed to have been successful. The officers started by moonlight and returned safely.

ANOTHER VESSEL SUNK WITHOUT WARNING.

SEVEN PERSONS DROWNED.

London, April 1.

The steamship Seven Seas, of 1194 tons capacity, while proceeding from London to Liverpool was torpedoed in the afternoon off Beachy Head without warning. The vessel sank in three minutes. A destroyer saved seven persons and eleven were drowned.

FRENCH STEAMER TORPEDOED.

NINETEEN OF THE CREW DROWNED.

London, April 1, 3 p.m.

The French steamer "Emma" has been torpedoed off Beachy Head without warning. She sank in three minutes. Two of the crew, who had been in the water for an hour and a half, were rescued, and two bodies were recovered. Nineteen of the crew were drowned.

GERMANS CHANGING THE NUMBERS OF THEIR SUBMARINES.

London, April 1, 5.40 p.m.

The survivors of the "Falaba" affirm that the U28 is really one of the latest submarines, as the lettering "U28" was seen through new paint. This confirms the belief that the Germans have been changing the numbers of their submarines.

FUTURITY OF THE GERMAN SUBMARINE MENACE.

1899-20.

The Admiralty's weekly report states that out of 1660 arrivals and sailings, which is a record since the commencement of the German submarine blockade, only five vessels have been sunk. This does not include the Dutch steamer "Medea" which was sunk by gun fire from a German submarine.

A LANDWEHR BATTALION SUFFERS SEVERELY.

A Paris communique states—We continue successfully to wage minor warfare in the regions of Reims, Champagne and Argonne. We captured three officers and 140 men at Reims in Reims and repulsed all counterattacks, and a German attack at Perroy by a Landwehr battalion suffered severely. Belgian aviators dropped bombs on the Avion Camp at the Hand-some railway junction, Kortemarsh.

BY TELEGRAPH.

DESCRIPTION OF THE FRENCH FRONT.

11,000 GERMAN DEAD TAKEN FROM THE TRENCHES.

Superiority of French Artillery.

London, April 1, 1.30 p.m.

A telegram from New York states that the Associated Press correspondent at the French Headquarters, in the course of brilliant description of the French front, says that 11,000 German dead were taken from the trenches won by the French after twenty days' fighting in Champagne. The German wastage was two to one compared with the French because the Germans tried to regain lost ground by repeated counterattacks with obstinate courage. These counterattacks were supported by relatively inadequate artillery. French artillery is numerous and concentrated, subdues the German guns and tears up sections of the German trenches, then suddenly ceases and the French infantry dash forward, a hand to hand struggle ensuing. Then the guns speak again from the barriers and bursting shells behind the German front line prevent the enemy's reserves from advancing until the captured trench is able to resist the assaults. The French employ such large quantities of new artillery that they are able to combine and concentrate their fire in an unprecedented way and dominate their adversary's position seemingly at any time and place.

TROOPS REVIEWED BY GENERAL JOFFRE.

The correspondent saw General Joffre review the troops at Champagne. They were drawn up in a drizzle, standing in front in massed battalions and there were a few who were about to receive decorations.

Sixty-four buglers sounded the salute as General Joffre came on to the field. The General planned the decorations to the recipient's breast; and after attaching a medal to the breast of a youthful private, kissed both his cheeks. The boy remained strictly to attention, while tears ran down his cheeks.

The General afterwards talked to the correspondent and said "See how these men look after months in the trenches. They will be in the same fine condition if a definite result takes years."

The review finished with a full gallop of the cavalry, the trumpeters sounding the salute. General Joffre seemed in perfect health and was very tranquil, gravely smiling to the men, who regard him as the most eminent soldier of France since Napoleon, yet so different in simplicity and personal efficiency.

ARTILLERY DUKES AND AVIATION INCIDENTS.

London, April 1, 1.5 a.m.

The Paris evening communique states that artillery duels took place at various points along the front. We occupied the villages of Feynaye in the Woivre district and repulsed several counterattacks.

An airman named Garros brought down an aeroplane with machine-gun fire south of Dixmude and an Aviator at Navarre brought down a German aeroplane.

Rifle fire is proceeding along the Aisne.

THE DUKE OF PORTLAND'S STUD.

London, April 1, 1.15 p.m.

It is understood that the Duke of Portland has scratched some of his horses in all engagements for the present season and the remainder until July 31. The remaining horses in training will be sold by auction at Newmarket. If the war takes a favourable course, the Duke will doubtless consider the advisability of running his horses in the Autumn.

VISCOUNT HALDANE'S PREDICTION.

London, April 1, 1.15 p.m.

Viscount Haldane, interviewed by a representative of the "Chicago Daily News," stated that though this was a struggle for existence we will not violate the dictates of humanity in any eventuality. The real pacific Germany will take over the helm, and as a result of the war secret diplomacy will disappear and everywhere there will be a great democratic advance. "I believe the world will be so organized that no nation will be permitted to go to war."

THE KING AND THE DRINK EVIL.

London, March 31, 10.15 p.m.

H.M. King George, in a letter to Mr. Lloyd George, says he feels that nothing but the most vigorous measures can cope successfully with the grave situation existing in the armament factories. This situation is undoubtedly largely due to drink, which caused delay in the conveyance of the necessary reinforcements and supplies to aid our gallant troops at the front. A continuance of this state of things must result in the prolongation of the horrors and burdens of this terrible war.

His Majesty added that, if it should be deemed advisable, he was prepared to set the example of giving up all alcoholic liquor himself, and forbidding its consumption in the Royal Household, so that there should be no difference in this matter between the rich and the poor.

It is understood that the King's example in the matter of alcohol will be immediately followed by a large number of high officers of State, including members of the Cabinet and Judges.

Earl Kitchener has forbidden alcoholic drinks in his household during the remainder of the war.

His Majesty's lead meets with great approval, and has made the deepest impression among the workers. It is affirmed in many quarters that this has solved the whole liquor problem, and has created an almost universal desire to voluntarily abstain.

GERMAN WARSHIPS IN THE NORTH SEA.

BOMBS DROPPED ON A BRITISH TRAWLER.

London, March 31.

A telegram from Ymuiden states that the skipper of a trawler, fishing on Monday in the North Sea, reports that a German seaplane dropped a bomb when passing over him. It narrowly missed the trawler. Two Zeppelins also passed in the neighbourhood of the trawler, which, a short while later, observed a number of German warships. The trawler was stopped and visited by a torpedo-boat, but allowed to proceed.

OPERATIONS AT THE BOSPHORUS.

London, April 1.

A Petrograd communique states that the Russian Black Sea fleet have bombarded Zungulak, Kozla, Kilimli and Ergil.

A telegram from Petrograd states that it is officially announced that the bombardment of Zungulak and neighbouring places was carried out by ships and seaplanes. Fog during the last three days has prevented the bombardment of the Bosphorus.

BY TELEGRAPH.

TO FACILITATE WORK AT THE DOCKS.

DOCKERS UNDER MILITARY LAW.

London, March 31.

The Government, in order to facilitate the working of the Docks, is enlisting dockers under military law with Army pay; in addition, to be guaranteed a minimum wage of 35/- per week, overtime to be paid extra.

As an example, the First Dock Battalion of the Liverpool Regiment have sergeants and corporals, etc., who wear khaki overalls. These men join of their own freewill.

Lord Derby is in command of the Battalion.

The scheme is at present confined to Liverpool.

TROUBLE WITH INDIAN TRIBESMEN.

London, March 31.

A Simla communique states that 10,000 Frontier tribesmen assembled with a view to attacking Tochi. Consequently, at dawn on the 28th inst., two squadrons of Cavalry, a mounted battery, and a battalion of Jats and Sikhs, under Brigadier-General Fane, with the North Waziristan Militia engaged and defeated the enemy, killing 200 and wounding 800. Prisoners and war material were taken and the marauders were driven away.

ANOTHER GLASGOW STEAMER TORPEDOED.

London, March 31.

The Glasgow steamer Crown of Castile has been torpedoed and sunk off the Scilly Islands. A French steamer picked up the crew.

THE "WILLIAM FRYE'S" CARGO.

London, April 1.

Reuter's Washington correspondent telegraphs that it is ascertained that the cargo of the American ship William Frye was not American owned when the Prinz Eitel Friedrich sank the vessel. Therefore, America will only ask Germany to pay compensation for the destruction of the hull. It is expected that Germany will readily consent, and will express regret.

GERMAN LINES REPORTED BROKEN.

ENEMY SUFFER HEAVY LOSSES IN FLANDERS.

London, March 31.

The Amsterdam newspaper Vrijheid states that it is permanently rumored that the Allies have broken through the German lines on the Yser, that the Germans have suffered heavy losses, and that a great portion of the German right wing has been cut off.

AMERICAN LOANS TO BELLIGERENTS.

London, April 1.

A telegram from Washington states that Mr. Bryan, Secretary of State, in a statement, said the Government had not felt justified in objecting to loans arranged by belligerents with the United States' banks.

ON THE EASTERN FRONT.

RUSSIANS CAPTURE 16,410 PRISONERS AND 72 GUNS.

London, March 31.

It is officially announced that the Russians in one sector of the Carpathians between March 20th and March 29th captured 16,410 prisoners and 72 guns.

CARPATHIANS OFFENSIVE CONTINUES.

London, April 1.

A Petrograd official communique states that the Russians advancing near Krzemnopol forced the Germans, on Tuesday, to retreat, and captured 200 prisoners.

The Russian offensive in the Carpathians continues. The Russians have captured 1,788 prisoners and five machine-guns.

BRITISH CASUALTIES.

London, March 31.

The latest casualties reported are—
Killed—W. G. Fletcher, R. Geldergomarrill.
Wounded—H. G. Roberts (South Lancashire), E. Ruse, H. Selby, 3rd Lieut. W. Trasehawe (King's Liverpool).

BRITAIN'S REVENUE.

INCREASE OF OVER TWENTY-THREE AND A HALF MILLIONS.

London, April 1.

The revenue for the financial year was £228,804,080, showing a net increase of £28,451,183. The principal increases were Customs, £3,212,000; Excise, £3,722,000; Death Duties, £1,023,000; and Income Tax, £22,160,000. The only material decrease was in stamps, and this was due to the restriction of Stock Exchange transactions.

THE "FALABA'S" AMERICAN PASSENGER.

Grave Situation May Arise.

London, April 1.

A telegram from Washington states that while no official notification concerning the drowning of the American subject, named Thrasher, who was a passenger on the "Falaba," has arrived, officials view the situation as fraught with grave possibilities.

MILITARY APPOINTMENTS.

London, April 1, 10.40 p.m.

The "Gazette" announces that Major-General F. E. Ellison and Major-General H. G. Smith, have been appointed Directors of Artillery.

THE "BLUEJACKET."

London, April 1.

The "Bluejacket" was a Cardiff steamer, loaded with a cargo of grain from the River Plate. She was torpedoed on the 18th ult. off Beachy Head.

COMMERCIAL.

SHARE REPORT.

Messrs Vernon and Smyth, in their weekly share report, dated 1st April state:—

A fair general business has been put through during the past week, and prices on the whole continue firm. The London market for most stocks in which the Colony is interested is an advancing one, but the disadvantage under which members of the London Stock Exchange find themselves in not being allowed to buy from abroad is seriously hampering business, and little or nothing has been done in this direction. Tin has advanced to 217½ cash, Copper is quoted at 139½, and Rubber at 2/5½. Exchange on London closes at 1/9½ T.T. with Bar Silver at 23½ ready. The quoted rates for T.T. on Shanghai and Singapore are 78 and 77½ respectively.

Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai are a quiet market with small sellers at \$300. Marine Insurance.—Unions on the announcement of a dividend of \$55 for 1913 as against \$50 for 1912, advanced rapidly to \$300, and have since been done at \$300 at which rate the market closes firm. Cansons are quiet but steady at \$350, North China at 17½, and Yangtze at \$235 with Exchange 73.

Fire Insurance.—China are easier with sellers at \$131, but Hongkong continue firm with buyers at \$375 and no business reported.

Shipping.—China and Manila are unchanged with sellers at \$54, buyers offering \$55. Douglas have been done at \$35, and Steamboats at \$22½, the latter closing with further sellers. Indo China, in view of the continued improvement in coast freights, have advanced rapidly from \$20 to \$22 with small sales at intermediate rates, the market closing strong. The London selling rate is 29½. Star Ferries are neglected with shares on offer at \$36.

Oils.—Shell Transporters have advanced in London to \$14, and Orin Capsons to 37½, but no business has transpired. Langkats can be placed at 28½. At the meeting of shareholders in this company held in Shanghai yesterday the directors were very hopeful of the future. The deep boring was progressing more quickly, and work was now being carried out on five wells, whilst in Java boring had been commenced on one hole. The estimated output of Rubber for 1915 was 380,000 pounds. Operations in Sumatra were in abeyance pending a settlement of the question of Mining rights.

Mining.—Banks have declined to a selling quotation of \$44, and shares could probably be obtained slightly under this rate. Railways have advanced to 35½ buyers, and Trocens to 32½ steady.

Docks, Wharves and Godowns.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks are quiet, but firm at \$34 ex the dividend of \$3 per share for 1914 paid yesterday. There are buyers of Kwong Lok Wharves at \$66 but no shares are forthcoming at present. In the North there are buyers of New Engineering at 11½, Shanghai Docks at 58, and Shanghai and Hongkong Wharves at 11½.

Lands, Hotels and Buildings.—Hongkong Lands are steady at \$110 and West Point at \$68½. Kwong Lok Lands are in request at \$40, and \$64 would be paid for Humphreys Estates. Central Estates are unchanged with buyers at \$95. There is nothing doing in Hotels which close with out features at \$118. Shanghai Lands have buyers at 100.

Colon Mills.—Kwong are in request at 11½ and Shanghai Cottons at 11½. Sales are reported of Kwong Yiks at 11½, and at this rate there are buyers. In other descriptions there is nothing doing, and quotations are purely nominal.

Miscellaneous.—China Borneo continue firm with buyers at \$11. Ropes are wanted at \$26 ex the final dividend of \$1 making \$2 for 1914, paid yesterday, and there are buyers of China Lights at \$34. China Providents at \$23, Dairy Farms at \$34, and Trans at \$25½. Consents are firm at \$7 with sales and probable buyers. Sales of Electric are reported at \$10, and of Union Water Boats at \$17½. There are sellers of Peak Tram at \$10½, Steam Landers at \$14, and Ewells at \$13½.

Messrs.—Hongkong Ice Company, Ltd., ordinary annual meeting on the 12th inst., transfer books closed from the 30th inst. to 12th prox. inclusive.

Green Island Cement Company, Limited, ordinary annual meeting on the 10th inst., transfer books closed from the 1st to 10th inst. inclusive.

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